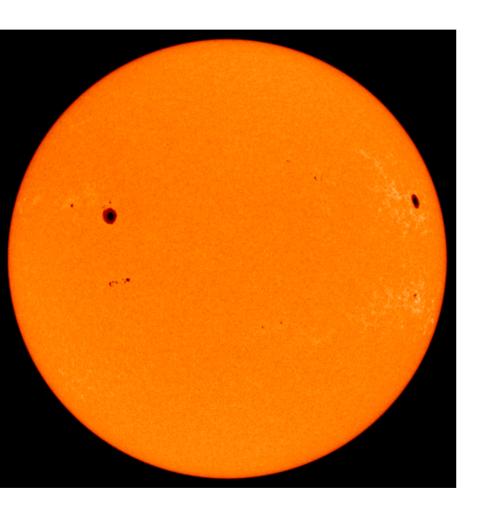






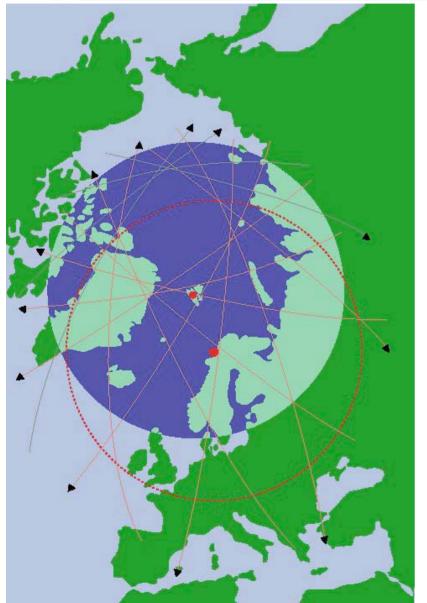
### Significant Focus on ILWS



- Meetings and presentations with all groups.
- National workshop end April.
- Ongoing attempts to increase funding for ILWS in general and sounding rocket activities in particular.
- Consorted effort led to a 3.3 M€ committed investment in Solar B data reception and distribution.
- Will to develop broader operational support to ILWS missions from Svalbard.



### Why Svalbard?



- At 79 degrees latitude, all orbits of polar orbiting satellites >500 km.
- Easy access and relatively benign climate.
- Existing infrastructure for satellite downlink and commanding.
- Infrastructure commercially developed; that is cost-effective.
- Strong national support.
- Investment by NSC of high speed communication to Svalbard.



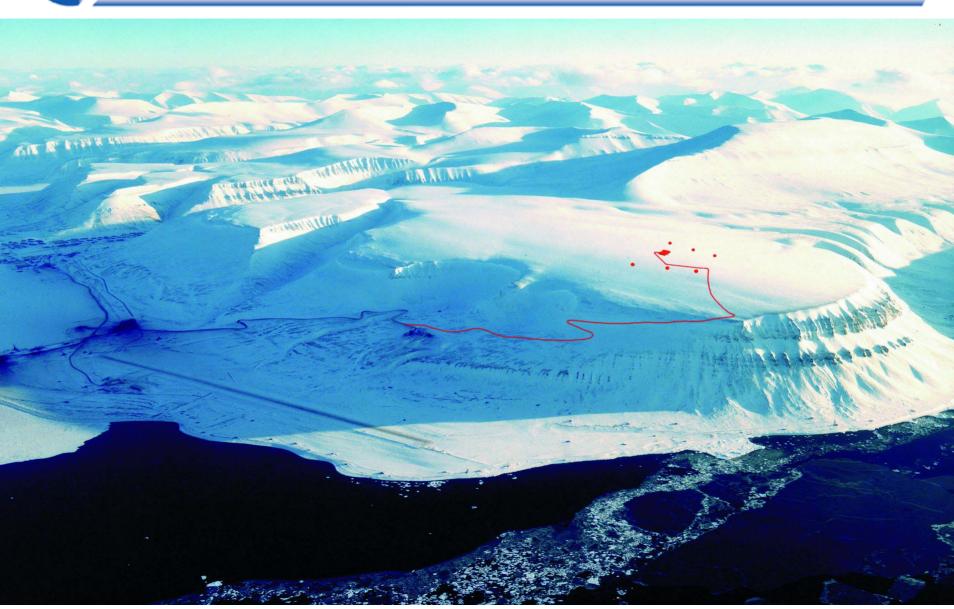
### On top of the world



- Well developed satellite communication, but costly.
- NSC signed contract 11-04-03 to connect Svalsat and mainland with optical cable.
- Investment of 40-50 M€.
- In operation from 2004 with an initial bandwidth of 20 Gbit/s.
- By 2005 the largest ground station for polar orbiting satellites, NASA, NOAA, ESA, EUMETSAT, ISAS.



## **Location of Svalsat**



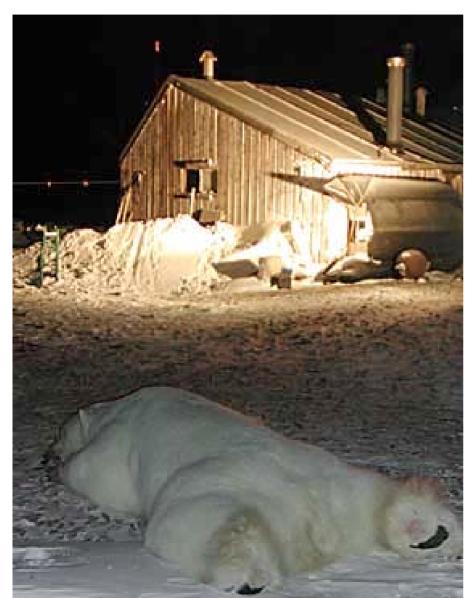


# **SVALSAT**





### Not your common neighbourhood!



- Most of Svalbard protected.
- No unarmed movement outside major settlements.
- Polar bear small, but real danger.



### **Background**

#### ISAS

- Scientific output limited by downlink bandwidth.
- Wish to increase RT data access.
- Decrease risk by more contact possibilities.

#### ESA

- No offer to community between SOHO and SOLO
- Provide support for something that is important to project in exchange for data rights.
- Support should have simple interfaces.

#### Norway

- Involved with MSSL on EIS.
- See the need for more data bandwidth.
- Solar physics one of two national priorities.
- Has suitable ground station on Svalbard.
- Sees an opportunity to move "non-science" resources into science."

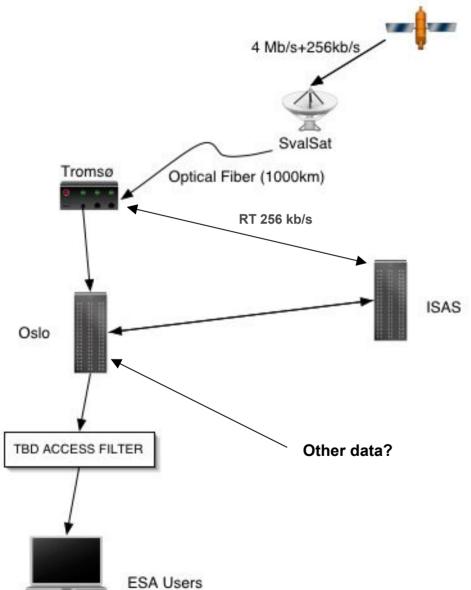


## **ESA-Norwegian Solar B Support**

- Unsolicited proposal from NSC to ESA will provide the ESA support to Solar B as fixed price contract (7.7 M€).
- Proposal includes:
  - 15 orbits/day downlink at 4 Mb/s for four years operation.
  - Transport of data to ISAS/Oslo.
  - Real time datalink to ISAS of up to 256 kb/s.
  - Build-up and operation of European data centre for Solar B data for four years operation and one year archiving phase.
  - High speed data links to European users.
- NSC will subcontract the downlink/operation part to its subsidiary KSAT and the data centre to ITA/UiO.
- Norwegian contribution is valued to 3.3 M€.



### **Svalbard Downlink**



- Will provide additional 2.4GByte per day.
- Norway will provide to ESA users a data centre in Oslo for data distribution and archive.
- Oslo data centre will provide the required access filter as determined by ISAS/ESA.
- Approximately 10 minutes RT data to ISAS every orbit.
- Data archive of ≥24 Tbyte and high speed access.
- Possibility to include other data (Swedish La Palma solar telescope being considered)



### **Supplementary Observations**



- Future of EISCAT?
- Extended use of small and inexpensive sounding rockets.
- Auroral camera and magnetometer networks.